

Memorandum

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Mayor Chuck Reed

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: December 6, 2011

Approved

Chuck Reed

Date

12/6/11

INFORMATION

SUBJECT: 2011 MAYOR'S BIENNIAL REVIEW OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ETHICS, ETHICS ORDINANCES AND OPEN GOVERNMENT PROVISIONS

The City Charter requires the Mayor to conduct a biennial review of the Code of Ethics and ordinances relating to ethical standards and make recommendations for changes to the City Council (City Charter Section 607). In addition, our adopted Sunshine Reform resolution states that we conduct a review of our sunshine provisions during the time of the Mayor's Biennial Ethics Review (Sunshine Phase II Resolution Section 5.5).

After careful consideration, I recommend no changes at this time.

Since January 2007, the City Council has approved more than 90 ethical, fiscal, and open government reforms – more than 30 Reed Reforms, more than 40 sunshine reforms, and more than a dozen reforms from the Mayor's 2007 and 2009 biennial ethics review.

Over the past few years, we have begun to institutionalize these ethical, fiscal, and open government reforms, permanently changing the way City Hall operates. We eliminated the practice of making back-room deals and springing them on the public at the last minute. We stopped making policy by surprise so the public can participate in the debate. We made it much easier for the public to get information about how we conduct the people's business and spend tax dollars.

These changes, as well as some additional changes to our campaign finance ordinance that were recently adopted by the City Council on November 1, 2011, have improved the operation of our government. If additional reforms are needed, I will recommend them during the next ethics review.